



Magazine

SUMMER 2011 • VOL 19 • NUMBER 2

For the Alumni and Friends of the University of North Alabama





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UNA Magazine

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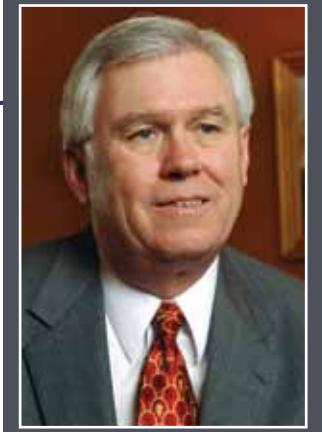
Editor
Carol Lyles ('70)
Designers
Karen Hodges ('84), Chuck Craig ('79)
Photographer
Shannon Wells ('05)
Contributing Photographers
Carol Lyles ('70)
Evan Whisenant
Johnny Wang
Contributing Writers
Lucy Berry
William G. Cale, Jr.
Shane Herrmann ('99)
Noelle Ingle
Jeff Hodges ('82)
Jason Lankford
Carol Lyles ('70)
Emily Patterson ('96)
Josh Woods

Send correspondence and address changes to:

UNA Magazine
Office of Alumni Relations
UNA Box 5047
University of North Alabama
Florence, AL 35632-0001
e-mail: alumni1@una.edu

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president's message

William G. Cale, Jr.

We have concluded what has been a frantic year on campus. The pressure has come from our need to get our house in the best possible

order for our forthcoming reaffirmation of accreditation review, which begins in the fall and concludes in early March. Over time it is inevitable that policy and practice may drift apart. Due to a tremendous amount of work by a great many people, and through the very efficient handling of a myriad of requests by our three senates and Shared Governance structure, we have properly aligned ourselves with both our internal policies and practices, and the standards we follow for our accreditation. In short, UNA is in good shape. As alums and friends of UNA, I know you join me in appreciation of the campus community for accomplishing so much so quickly.

We continue to make good progress on our building initiatives. The new maintenance facility at East Campus is complete and the Physical Plant is in the process of moving in. New offices for our security officers are being finished in Keller Hall. Once they relocate to Keller, Physical Plant will take over their present building since some operations (such as the grounds crew) will need to have a permanent location on campus. Meanwhile, the internal layout for the science and technology building is complete and we are moving toward the next phase of design. The academic and student commons building is likewise in

the second phase of design. The lobby of Bibb Graves is undergoing a facelift and will be completed soon. The Black Box Theatre, which is located at the intersection of Irvine and Pine Streets, is under construction.

UNA continues its commitment to global awareness this summer as 26 students travel to China for a one month experience. Professors Dennis Balch ('71) (Business) and Michael Pretes (Geography) will accompany the students, as will Vice Provost for International Affairs Dr. Chunsheng Zhang. Other student groups this summer will study in Costa Rica with Dr. Claudia Vance (Foreign Languages) and Dr. Gabriela Carrasco (Psychology), in England with Dr. Jeff Bibbee (History) and Dr. Lesley Peterson (English), in Honduras with Professor Charlotte Cramer (Nursing), in Peru with Dr. Scott Infanger (Foreign Languages), and in Tanzania with Drs. Francis Koti and Greg Gaston (both from Geography). Dr. Keith Lindley (Foreign Languages) led a student group to France during Spring Break in March. It is very exciting to see us expanding our study abroad opportunities.

For those of you who don't get to go abroad this summer, come and enjoy some time at UNA. Our summer theatre production is *Death of a Salesman* (June 23, 24, 25, & 26). The campus in spring and early summer is spectacular.

Sincerely yours,
William G. Cale, Jr., President



BLACK BOX THEATRE

By Lucy Berry, Student Intern



The construction of a black box theatre, UNA's first new academic building in seven years, will bring numerous opportunities to theatre students after its anticipated completion in Spring 2012.

The theatre, which will be located behind Norton Auditorium, will be designed specifically for professional theatrical use, while giving actors the chance to work on a transformative stage and perform in front of a smaller audience.

The UNA and Shoals communities gathered March 4 for a special ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the new addition to campus.

"[The ground breaking was] a long-awaited day for all of us – for the university community and especially for the students and professors of theatre," said Dr. William G. Cale, Jr., UNA president. "We're excited for them to have this professional stage for classes, rehearsals and professional productions. I look forward to attending the

first play."

The \$2 million black box theatre, which was funded through state bond money, the university's Capital Fund and private philanthropy, will offer a variety of theatre settings, including theatre in the round, a thrust stage, and the

common proscenium arch.

"The addition of a black box theatre to our facilities has been a priority for many years," said Dr. David McCullough, chair of the UNA Department of Music and Theatre. "The university's commitment to the construction of this facility not only affirms the highest ideals of the institution's mission and goals, but gains for us all inspiration and momentum in establishing UNA as a center of cultural leadership in the performing arts within this region and beyond."

Through the duration of the building project, a construction zone is being maintained around the construction site. The Department of Music and Theatre have performed numerous smaller plays this year to prepare for the new facility.

Ribbon Cut for Two New Buildings at East Campus



UNA opened its new Facilities and Vehicle Maintenance Building and Bus Warehouse with a celebratory ribbon cutting May 10. The 28,700-square-foot facilities and maintenance building and 7,150-square-foot bus facility are located at the University's East Campus on Tune Avenue in Florence, about 2.5 miles from the main campus.

"The construction of these two new buildings is key to the future growth and development of UNA," said Dr. William G. Cale, Jr., UNA president. "The relocation of facilities and maintenance to the East Campus is a very strategic move for new academic construction in the near future."

Facilities and maintenance had been located on North Pine Street, where construction on a new Science and Technology Center will soon begin. Grounds and custodial crews continue to keep offices on campus in the former University Police Station on the western edge of campus. University Police now occupy the basement level of Keller Hall.

Beth Garfrerick Named NAPRCA Educator of the Year

University of North Alabama communications instructor Dr. Beth Garfrerick was recently selected as the 2011 North Alabama Chapter of the Public Relations Council of Alabama Educator of the Year. Educator of the Year is one of NAPRCA's top three honors.



The Educator of the Year award was established to recognize an educator who has taught public relations or a closely related discipline and who has demonstrated a commitment to advance the profession of public relations.

Garfrerick teaches public relations at UNA and has more than 20 years of experience in the field of education as a public relations practitioner. She has held positions with the Times Daily, Florence and Lauderdale County schools, the Tennessee School Boards Association and UNA. Garfrerick teaches courses in public relations writing and research, campaigns, media writing, and reporting. She received her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Alabama.

National Library Week brings home Alum

By Lucy Berry

Student Writer for University Communications



Bestselling author and UNA alumnus **John Lee ('78)** discussed his books during National Library Week in Collier Library on April 15. Lee recently sold the screen rights to his book "When Buddha Met Bubba," which is based and will be filmed in the Shoals.

Fellow author Tom Hendrix, who wrote "If the Legends Fade," joined Lee during the library's book talks and signings. For Lee, the experience of being back on campus with the support of friends, alumni and colleagues was worthwhile.

"I had a great time and it was so good to be back on what I consider to be one of the most beautiful campuses in the South," Lee said.

The Tuscumbia native, who is also well-known for his work as a personal life coach and consultant, has appeared on the Oprah Winfrey show, 20/20, The View, Barbara Walters, PBS and CNN. His works have been featured in The New York Times, Newsweek and Yoga Journal.

Lee has written more than 15 books. He also founded the Austin Men's Center, a counseling and education refuge for men, in Austin, Texas.

Doris McDaniel, access services librarian at Collier Library, hopes to schedule more authors and activities during National Library Week in the future.

"The event went very well," she said. "We had the two guest authors and both of them drew a good crowd. Mr. Lee was very down to earth even though he has written so many books and a couple of bestsellers."



Collier Library has new Director

Dr. Melvin Davis ('96), a native of the Shoals area, joined Collier Library as Director of Library Services in July 2010. He earned a bachelor's at UNA before moving to Tuscaloosa to attend the University of Alabama where he earned three degrees: a master's in Latin American Studies (1999); a Master of Library and Information Science (2001); and a Ph.D. in History (2005).

Dr. Davis has held librarian appointments at the University of Alabama, Nashville Public Library, and Middle Tennessee State University. More recently, he served the Florida College System at the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) in Tallahassee, Florida. In this position, he worked on behalf of Florida's 28 state-funded colleges to coordinate library resource licensing for a system wide FTE of over 350,000. Dr. Davis was an advocate on behalf of the college system while developing skills as a project



manager in the areas of product and technology integration. Working alongside staff from the State University System and the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, he helped lay a foundation for collaborative licensing of electronic library materials for all academic institutions in Florida.

Dr. Davis' research interest in the library arena focuses on collaborative ventures, technology integration, and next generation library services. At the same time, he maintains an active research agenda in the field of history, including contributions to a forthcoming CQ Press encyclopedia and by way of ongoing work as a book reviewer. Dr. Davis' wife, Michelle, who earned an MFA from Florida State University, is an adjunct in the Art Department at UNA and an online adjunct at FSU.

Davis said, "I am excited to be here and I am looking forward to working with the students, faculty, and staff at UNA to create a vision of the 'library' that goes beyond the building's walls."

UNA WRITER'S SERIES

Isabel Wilkerson – UNA Writer's Series

By Lucy Berry
Student Writer for University Communications



The Great Migration, one of the most underreported stories of the 20th century, was the central topic of Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Isabel Wilkerson's talk during the Writer's Series at UNA on April 14.

Wilkerson, who worked as the former Chicago bureau chief for the New York Times and is currently a journalism professor and director of narrative nonfiction at Boston University, discussed her 2010 bestselling work "The Warmth of Other Suns," which took her 15 years and more than 1,200 interviews to complete.

The migration, which began during World War I and ended in the 1970s, was the movement of around six million African-Americans from the South to urban areas in the North. Seeking equality and fair treatment, they left the South looking for new opportunities.

"If those people made the decision to leave all that they had known, with very little education and no promise for success, and still have had the impact that they had, then that means there is nothing we can't do today," Wilkerson said.

Wilkerson described the caste system that was in place during the time of the Great Migration. The system held a fierce grip on people living in the South with its different social hierarchies and rules regarding race relations.

To escape the discrimination and strict regulations on race, African-Americans fled their homelands by taking freedom trains with hopes for a better future for themselves and their families.

"For the first time, the lowest caste system in this country had options and they took them," Wilkerson said. "The migration helped to expose people to alternative ways of being treated. It inspired people and provided a safety valve to the ones who stayed home that there was a place where they could go."

Wilkerson won the 2011 NAACP Image Award, 2010 National Book Critics Circle Award and the Anisfield-Wolf Award for her nonfiction work.



UNIVE

A DIALOGUE OF RELIGION



Three of the major world religions, Judaism, Islam and Christianity, were represented in "A Dialogue of Religion," in this semester's installment of the UNA Distinguished Events Series on April 12. Stephen Prothero, a professor of religion at Boston University, spoke about the importance of studying religion in order to understand the conflicts of the world and the mindsets of people in various cultures.

"If [so many] people live their lives through religion we need to know something about religion," he said.

Prothero rejected the cliché statement that all religions essentially involve "hiking up the same mountain." He said statements like that provide barriers to understanding different faiths rather than pathways to knowledge.

"The problem with this idea is that it's untrue, condescending and dangerous," said Prothero. "Religions start with very different problems. They climb different mountains and tell different tales as they ascend."

Rabbi Micah Greenstein of Temple Israel in Memphis said that "a generic religion is impossible because there are no generic human beings." He compared religions to beams of sunlight that originate from the same source, but get refracted in different ways depending on what kind of window the light is filtered through.

Sheikh Ossama Bahloul, imam of the Islamic Center of Murfreesboro, spoke about how impor-

tant it is for Muslims and members of other faiths to reject radicalism.

"You want Muslims to speak out against radicals," said Bahloul. "I am speaking out against radicals of any religion. We, as people, must all speak out against radicals."

William Willimon, bishop of the North Alabama Conference of the United Methodist Church and former Dean of the Chapel for Duke University, said that one of the things he misses most about being on a college campus is being able to interact daily with people of other faiths and learn about their similarities and distinctions. "You learn from other faiths," he said.



Laboratory Manual Authored by UNA Professors Funds Scholarships

By Jason Lankford
Student Intern

The instructors of UNA's Department of Biology collaborated to produce the first edition of Introductory Biology Laboratory Manual in 1997.

The lab exercise book, published by Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, is now in its third edition, and all royalties from its sale go directly into the Biology Academic Endowed Scholarship Fund.

The contributing authors are Dr. Paul Davison, Dr. Thomas Haggerty, Dr. Terry Richardson, Dr. Evelyn Bruce, Dr. Mary Allan, Dr. Robert Daly and Dr. Jack Brown.

The current manual evolved from a manual written in 1972. The scholarship fund was established in 1997, when the recent editions began to be printed.

"The decision was made when the current authors took over," said Dr. Robert Daly, professor of biology. "We all decided to convert the

royalties to the scholarship fund."

The money from the royalties, along with outside contributions, allowed the scholarship fund to grow to approximately \$25,000 during the past 13 years, qualifying it for the UNA foundation's Lion Match program that doubles the amount of the award.

The first scholarship was awarded this year in the amount of \$2,500 to an incoming freshman majoring in biology.

"We want it to be a good recruiting tool," said **Dr. Terry Richardson ('82)**, professor of biology. "We also hope it will help us get more honors level students here in the biology department."

Each recipient can be awarded the scholarship for up to eight semesters as long as he or she maintains a 3.25 overall GPA and a 3.5 GPA in biology.



Historical Society Increases Scholarship Giving



The Tennessee Valley Historical Society has created more scholarship opportunities at UNA with a recent donation to the Department of History and Political Science. The donation increased the department's endowed scholarship fund to \$25,000, qualifying the fund for the UNA Foundation's Lion Match program. The program is matching the scholarship's award amount, doubling the scholarship's impact on students.

Scholarships will be awarded to high school students who participate in the TVHS Scholarship Competition each spring. Participants compete for the scholarships by completing a written exam, which is an objective, multiple-choice test on U.S. and world history.

"This donation is for high school students to use at UNA," said Dr. Jeffrey Bibbee, assistant professor of history. "Over time, we will be able to raise the value of our scholarships and help to secure our scholarship program for many, many more years to come."

It was a perfect storm. **APRIL 27, 2011**

By **Dennis Sherer**
TimesDaily, Staff Writer

Weather service officials predicted warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico would collide with a cold front somewhere over Alabama. Add in a forecast calling for winds aloft to be extremely strong, and suddenly a recipe was formed for powerful tornadoes that could stay on the ground for many miles.

The coming-together of all three weather elements delivered a horrific wave of tornadoes in Alabama on April 27, leaving more than \$1 billion worth of damage and killing 236 people, according to state emergency management officials. They said 21 confirmed tornadoes touched down in the state, including two that measured EF5 status, the strongest rating given to tornadoes.

The most powerful one struck the Hackleburg and Phil Campbell areas of northwest Alabama. That system cut a path of destruction for more than 100 miles, entering the state at Hamilton in western Marion County and ultimately exiting into Tennessee.

Meteorologists at the National Storm Prediction Center in Oklahoma and National Weather Service offices throughout Alabama warned for two days deadly tornadoes could roar through the state April 27.

Excerpt from *TimesDaily*





Phil Campbell, Alabama **APRIL 27, 2011**

3:45 - 4:00 p.m.

Terrorized by an EF5 Tornado

By **Emily Pollard Patterson ('96)**
Collier Library Circulation Department

Luckily, UNA was closed and I was home with my family. I cannot imagine the terror I would have felt being separated from my family had I been at work when the storm hit Phil Campbell.

The siren warnings for severe weather had been sounding off and on since 4:00 that morning. My brother-in-law, Joel, was visiting with the family for a few days and he and I had watched a couple of the hail storms with amazement at the size of the hail, some of which were golf ball sized. We were not a family that jumped up and ran to the storm shelters with every storm and this was no different. Jason and Natalie had been sent home from school at 12:30 due to the possibility of severe storms. My husband, James, had gotten home about an hour earlier from work and we were all hanging around the living room except Joel. He was in the kitchen putting away a few groceries that he was planning to grill on his new grill for dinner that night.

Joel said he heard a strange noise and he and Jason went out to investigate. They were gone for less than a minute and then came running back in saying we needed to get somewhere without windows because it was here! The look of terror on Joel's face had us all moving quickly to our small bathroom. The five of us, along with Joel's big dog, were crammed into that little bathroom holding on and praying. No sooner had James gotten the bathroom door shut than it hit.

No, it does not sound like a train. We live beside the train tracks and are able to recognize that sound. The sound we heard

was a loud roar followed by the pounding of debris hitting our house. Our house was lifted and moved over about ten feet and back maybe three feet. We felt that. It felt as if we had levitated. The eye of the tornado then moved over us and it became very quiet right before the second round of debris hit. It was over in probably less than a minute, but it felt like an eternity.

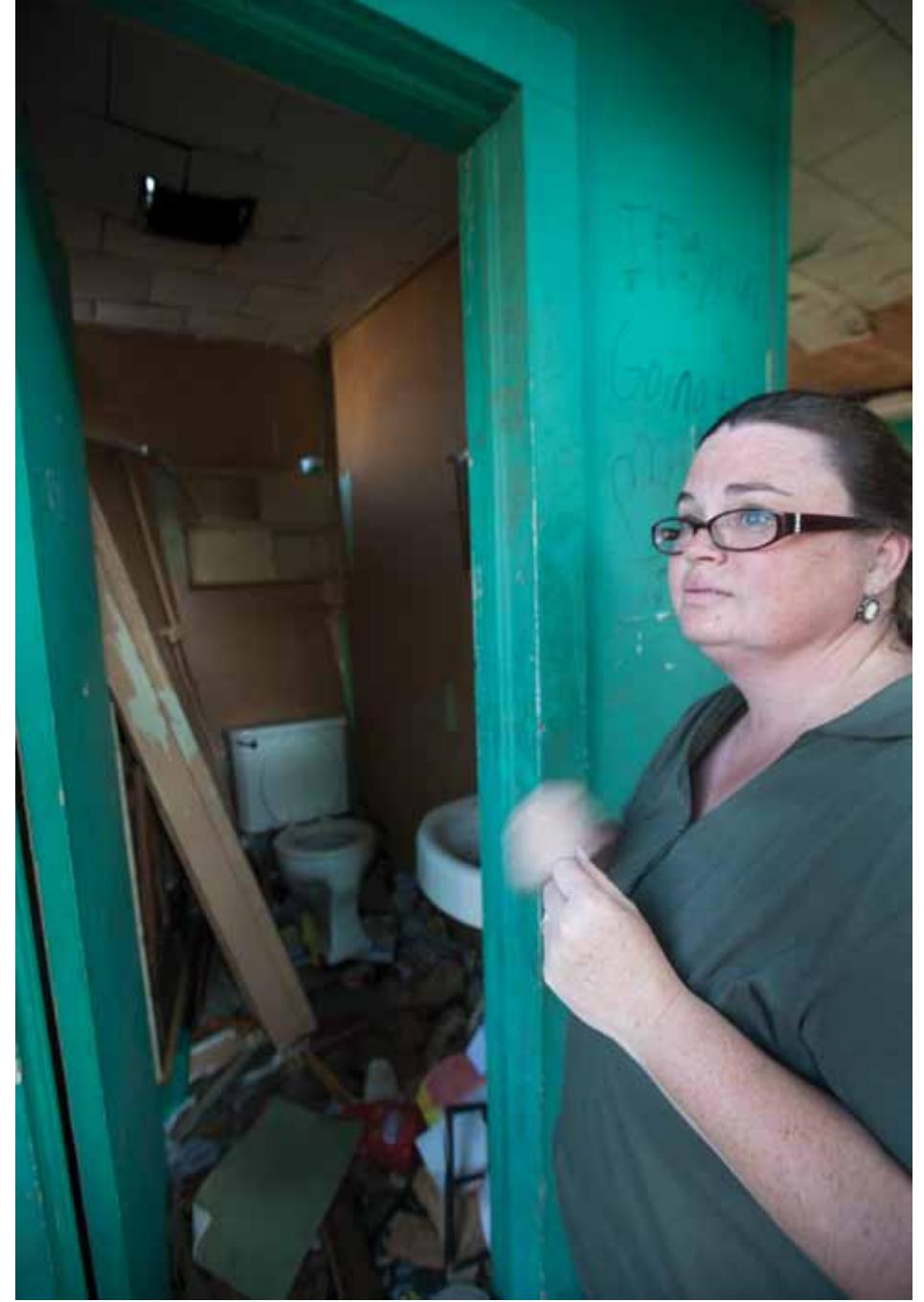
After it was gone and we looked to make sure we were all okay, James opened the bathroom door and we looked out at what was left of our home and neighborhood. In our rush to get to safety, we had forgotten our pet cockatiel Petey and had left him sitting on the couch. To our surprise Petey was okay and sitting on the back of the loveseat fussing at us for leaving him behind. We apologized and grabbed a towel to hopefully keep him safe until we could get out.

Next up were two of our dogs. They were in a pen at the back of the house and after the storm they came climbing up over the pile that was our house with their tails wagging. We were very happy to see them.

I had not done as my mother had always taught (to keep on good shoes during a storm) so there I was barefooted standing in a lot of broken glass. The glass plate that had covered our bathroom light had fallen down around our ears as the storm hit. I do not remember it falling. I did not realize that I was barefooted until I had taken a couple of small steps. Small steps were all you could take because the ceiling tiles and splintered wood were everywhere.

I wasn't the only one barefooted: James and Natalie were also without shoes. Thankfully, Jason had on shoes, and was able to climb out and over the debris to find his Dad's boots and a pair of Dad's sneakers that Natalie and I shared to climb out. I climbed out and then tossed them back to Nat to put on and walk out.

Joel's was the only phone that had service but my hands were shaking so badly he had to dial my parent's number for me. I was calling them in Savannah, Tenn., to come get us because we clearly were not going to be driving ourselves. All four of our vehicles and both of Joel's were totaled. Some of our neighbors



began walking by heading toward the emergency services at the end of the road.

Across the road we feared the worst. My husband's sister's home that she shared with Grandma was completely gone and only piles of debris left behind. We were sure that Grandma was home but weren't sure about Georgia Ann. Joel immediately ran over and heard Grandma calling for help but wasn't sure where she was. He came back and went to his 18-wheeler truck and brought back a pair of shoes for me and a tarp to provide a little cover from the rain and yet another hail storm. We climbed into our broken SUV to hide from the rain and hail that was intermittently falling on us. The dogs

RIGHT PAGE: Emily inside the remains of her tornado-destroyed home.



TOP: Emily and her son, Jason, and husband, James, pick through the remains of their home. ABOVE: Emily with her family: daughter, Natalie; husband, James; and son, Jason.

took the middle seat and I wiped as much of the glass off the seat as I could and Joel and James held the tarp up over us all.

I kept using Joel's phone to call my husband's cousins, Tim and Trixie, who live on County Road 81, to see if they were okay and to tell them we had been wiped out and to come help look for Grandma. Cell service was awful and because of the bad connection we had a new worry because I thought I had heard Tim tell me that he couldn't find his two kids. So, in addition to the shock of what

had happened and the worry over who had survived of our family and friends, I was now feeling helpless because we couldn't do anything.

While we were waiting for the rain to stop we saw Georgia Ann walking toward us. Thankfully she had been at the grocery store. She had waited out the storm inside the grocery freezer. Somehow, we were told another storm was coming and we needed to get to shelter. We forced Georgia to stop going through the rubble looking for Grandma and go with us to the neighbor's family storm shelter that was about a block over. We told her that if another storm came and she wasn't safe we would have her, as well as Grandma, to look for.

We unwillingly left behind Grandma and walked to the shelter around power lines, trees, and dangerous debris. The Hughes family shelter was the closest and thankfully they are good friends and neighbors so we could join them. Nickey Hughes had a radio that kept calling out for storm after storm so each time a cloud would get darker we would all run back into the shelter. Finally after a couple of hours emergency personnel arrived and told us we had to leave. If we could walk, then we had to walk. If you were hurt they had finally been able to get trucks through and they would take the wounded to get help. My family and I started walking and standing at the end of Bonner Street and Kent Street



Emily with several children from her tornado-devastated neighborhood in Phil Campbell.

was the best sight ever: our families. Tim and Trixie with both their kids, safe and sound. Tim had managed to text us that Grandma was rescued and was on her way to the hospital. Along with them were my parents, brother, and sister-in-law. Those were the best hugs I have ever gotten.

After I called my mother and told her we had survived but everything had been blown away, she called my dad at work and told him to get home, and then she called my brother who headed out immediately. He only stopped in Florence long enough to pick up Beth from work. He was there in a little over an hour to look for us. He managed to find what was left of our house and after looking across the road and seeing the need for help, he went and helped Tim and a few other gentlemen rescue Grandma. He told me they had been looking for us for over an hour. I turned behind us and pointed to a pile of debris and said we were in a shelter right there. He had walked all the way to the community storm shelter at least 2 or 3 miles away looking for us.

All of us kept walking toward what was left of our house and my brother's truck. We stood there looking in amazement at the massive destruction. The emergency personnel came through and told everybody we had to leave; we could not stay there. We loaded up in the back of the truck and Derrick slowly drove us out. My parents had to walk in and were parked at some very nice people's house

on Highway 13 on the edge of town. We stopped there and got everyone inside of the trucks safely and our next stop was Wal-Mart for dry clothes and Bojangles for dinner.

We spent the next three nights at my parent's home, driving each day back to Phil Campbell to salvage our belongings. Thankfully, we were able to recover two of my husband's trailers and use them to carry our belongings out. We were luckier than most of our neighbors because a lot of our things were there. Everything had a coating of what I call Tornado sludge, which is a mixture of mud, debris, insulation and other things that I really do not want to consider. Everything would have to be thoroughly cleaned.

While we were staying with my parents, my aunts, uncles, and cousins were cleaning up my grandmother's house for us to stay in until we could find a place to stay. In the days since, hundreds of people have called and helped in numerous ways. Every day things are getting better than before. My family and I have been very blessed to have many wonderful family and friends supporting us. I have come to realize that I have a huge and wonderful UNA family.



APRIL 27, 2011

PURPLE SWARM HELPS TORNADO VICTIMS

May 1, 2011

By **Jeff Hodes ('92)**
Assistant Athletic Director, Communications

In years past the nickname "Purple Swarm" referred to the University of North Alabama's swarming purple-clad defense that led the Lions to three straight football national championships in the 1990s. The Purple Swarm was revived on May 1 when more than 170 student-athletes, coaches and members of UNA's athletic staff, clad in purple, travelled to Phil Campbell, Ala., to assist in relief efforts from the devastation of the April 27 tornado outbreak. In a community of just over 1,100 people, more than 40 percent had their homes completely destroyed and numerous others were damaged.

The members of the new Purple Swarm worked at the Phil Campbell Community Center, helping receive items donated to help the storm victims. They helped at the distribution centers set up in Phil Campbell and Russellville to organize the donated items so that they could be handed out. They helped clear debris in and around the Phil Campbell High School athletic facilities. They unloaded ice at the Franklin County command post and fanned out



throughout neighborhoods to assist residents in recovering personal items and clearing their property.

It was an effort that UNA Athletic Director Mark Linder said he was proud to be a part of.

"I thought it was a fantastic outpouring of concern by our student-athletes for the north Alabama region," Linder said. "To

see 170 of our student-athletes volunteer their time in this effort was meaningful; not only for the victims they were able to help, but it also showed the spirit of our department. I couldn't be prouder of our staff and student-athletes."

One member of the UNA Athletic Department directly impacted by the tornadoes was freshman men's basketball



player Lawrence Butts of Phil Campbell. Butts and his family were in their home in the early morning hours of April 27 when the EF5 tornado swept through the town. They survived the storm but their house was completely destroyed. Coach Bobby Champagne and the members of the men's basketball team spent their day assisting Butts and his family.

One of Butts' teammates, Ricky Davison, said he had seen tornado damage before but he said what he saw in Phil Campbell was different. "It's been hard to deal with," he said.

Sophomore kicker Josh Montgomery said he was "awestruck" by the damage but was glad to have a chance to help. "What we've been doing puts some of this in perspective, about how dangerous these things can be," he said.

Earlier in the week the members of UNA's baseball team put their preparations for the upcoming Gulf South Conference Baseball Tournament on hold to help in the Langtown community in Lawrence County. The UNA players and



receive water and other donated items for the victims of the storm.

Several members of UNA's Office of Advancement were also part of the May 1 Purple Swarm, along with representatives of several of UNA's sororities and other concerned students.

UNA head basketball coach Bobby Champagne said watching news coverage of the storms doesn't capture the magnitude of the damage and what the residents are going through as seeing it in person. "It doesn't seem like we've done that much because there's so much to do."

coaches helped families recover personal items lost in the storm and clear debris. Members of several of UNA's athletic teams kicked into gear on the day after the tornadoes, helping area radio stations



See the Caring for the Pride relief fund video at www.una.edu/disaster-relief.

APRIL 27, 2011 OFFERING LONG-TERM DISASTER RELIEF

UNA faculty member Joy Borah was one of the lucky ones untouched by the devastation of April 27. But she remembers vividly a phone call she received from a student the next day.

"She [the student] called that morning and said she couldn't locate her family members. That afternoon, she called back and said she had lost her father," Borah said.

Another of Borah's students came to class the following Monday, "and she said her whole house was gone. The only remaining people were she and her daughter and her family members. The tornado had taken everything, and she was still in shock."

Borah is one of the many UNA employees and students to volunteer in Phil Campbell, Hackleburg, and other areas destroyed by the storms. But the cleanup work, she said, is only short-term relief for a long-term devastating situation.

"There is a lot to be done," she said, "even beyond what we are trying to accomplish today."

She said that efforts such as UNA's Caring for the Pride relief fund will be vital in the months and even years to come. "Long-term," she said, "I think we

need to show the community that we are here for the community. ... We are here for the community, we are here for the students, and Caring for the Pride really gives that recognition and lets people know that we are out there to help – and long-term, not just one day."

UNA freshman Lawrence Butts, who, with his family, survived the EF5 tornado that took his home, said that long-term support through Caring for the Pride is going to be crucial to the future of students from areas like his hometown of Phil Campbell.

"There are a lot of students down here who go to UNA," he said. "For students around here being able to continue their education, they're going to need some help, simply because this has also taken down the school as well as their homes. So they definitely need some help to continue their education."

UNA senior and volunteer relief worker Fredreaca Wilson said that help in any form, "no matter how big or how small you think what you're doing is, it's inspiring somebody and it's motivating someone, and it's pushing them to move beyond the situation. No matter how hard it is, it can just help to give them hope to move on."



APRIL 27, 2011 CARING FOR THE PRIDE UNA creates fund for tornado relief

In the days following the April 27 tornadoes that tore through Alabama and parts of Georgia, Mississippi and Tennessee, the University of North Alabama created a relief fund, Caring for the Pride, to offer assistance for current and prospective students of the university as well as faculty and staff who are victims of the storms.

"UNA was fortunate to have been spared by the storms that have devastated so many lives," said Dr. William G. Cale, Jr., UNA president. "However, not everyone among our university family was so lucky. Several students, faculty and staff – and even more among those who were planning to attend UNA this fall – suffered great devastation. UNA, through the Caring for the Pride campaign, is taking a more long-term look at the situation," Cale said. "Even after the clean-up is over, serious problems will remain. The losses suffered will take a lot of time to overcome. We are doing whatever we can to ensure that the opportunity for a college education is not among their losses."

A complete list of Caring for the Pride relief efforts is detailed at www.una.edu/disaster-relief. The Web page also includes links and contact information for current or prospective students affected by the recent storms.

Caring for the Pride is providing assistance through scholarships as well as provisions for needs such as books, technology, room and board, and other essentials students have lost. The university is also offering special services through offices such as admissions,



Caring for the Pride T-shirts to Support Relief Effort

Goodman Sports in Florence has donated T-shirts at cost for the Caring for the Pride relief effort. Each shirt is available for a minimum donation of \$25. T-shirt and donation links are available at www.una.edu/disaster-relief.



FINDING *the* BEAT

MEL BALDWIN TURNS A
CHILDHOOD PASTIME INTO A
DREAM CAREER

By Josh Woods



Mel Baldwin ('88) was 8 when he started playing the drums. It was a toy set – the kind every parent, neighbor and dog mourns a child having. Mel played it with energy, with fervor, with passion. But eventually, to everyone's delight, the cacophonous noise ceased. Not because Mel quit playing, but because his playing finally advanced to a real sound. He was 12 by then.

Mel remembers vividly emerging from his room one day after a one- or two-hour jam session. His mom asked where he'd been. "In my room practicing," he said. Maybe his mom was oblivious, or even deaf, to the noise by that point. But that isn't what Mel says: "It was musical by then, it wasn't just banging. The more musical it is, the more a parent can deal with it."

Today, more than 20 years later, Mel still disappears to his room to play the

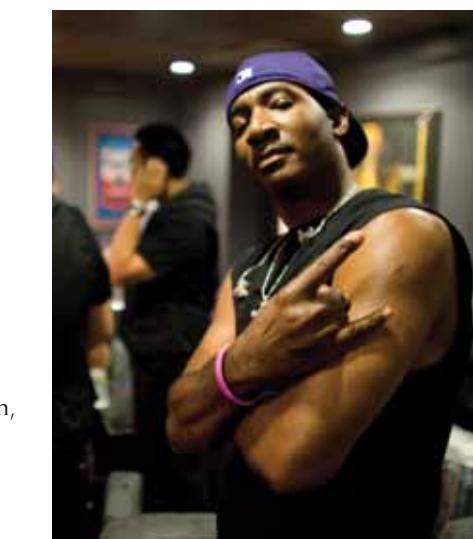


Mallory Wilson and Liz Irvine

drums for hours at a time. And his wife and college sweetheart, **Leatrice ('88)**, doesn't mind. For one reason, the room is a soundproof, professionally designed studio in the basement of their suburban home in Kennesaw, Ga. For another reason, when he's in there, he's laying drum tracks for songs that, in a few weeks, will be chart-topping hits. And for yet another reason, she's just grateful to have him home 24-7 when he isn't on tour.

Maybe you've heard Mel. Toni Braxton, Peabo Bryson, New Edition, the Indigo Girls, En Vogue, Bel Biv Devoe, Heads of State – if you've heard any of them, you've heard Mel. You may have seen him, too – on "Oprah," "The Tonight Show," "Saturday Night Live" or "Today," perhaps. Or maybe on the recent movie "Never Say Never." (That's right – Mel is Justin Bieber's drummer.)

That Mel has carried his drumming from a childhood toy into a career shouldn't be surprising when you consider the musical family from which he came. His mom played piano and sang in church. His sister plays violin and piano. His dad played in high school band. By the time Mel was in junior high, he, too, was in band – playing percussion, of course. That's how he eventually



found his way to the University of North Alabama.

Mel's door to UNA was through a band scholarship, which, for four years, made him part of the regular lineup for the Pride of Dixie, the Jazz Ensemble, the Percussion Ensemble and the Concert Band. Meanwhile, he actually declared a major outside of the music department – he studied business, earning a degree in management. It was an excellent program, he said, but not his first choice. If UNA had offered back then the entertainment industry major it offers now, he said, "I would have been head first into that,



dealing with artists and their managers, music directors, other musicians. You find yourself falling back on those management skills a lot."

But his business degree from UNA isn't all that Mel credits for his management savvy in the music industry. He also points to the UNA band program and Dr. Edd Jones, retired band director.

"I learned an awful lot [in the band program] first and foremost about professionalism and accountability – just being a responsible adult even before you're a responsible and accountable musician. ... Dr. Jones really brought that out of the students in the band program. He was just that kind of instructor. A lot of instructors are about the music and that's it, but he cared about the individual and how you're doing, not just musically but in your day-to-day life – how you're maturing and progressing as an individual. That taught me a lot, and I carry that with me all the time."

For his first seven years following college, he carried it with him into a job you might not have expected: a management position with Goodyear Tire

because I've always loved to record. Thus the home studio now."

But Mel's education in both music and management gave him the structure as well as the creative skill he would later need.

"It helps not only being able to manage your own career," he said, "but there are a lot of situations on the road in

and Rubber. Meanwhile, in the evenings, he was playing in bands and building friends and connections in the music industry. It was one of those friends who let him hang out in an Atlanta studio during a recording rehearsal for Dionne Farris. It was a session that would change his life forever.

"They were rehearsing a new drummer," Mel said, "but the drummer didn't turn out to be that good. So, long story short, I got that gig just by being in the right spot at the right time, and it led to me leaving Goodyear Tire and Rubber, moving to Atlanta and starting a full-time music career."

Leaving his stable, secure career at Goodyear was a no-brainer, he said, because a music career had been his lifelong dream. Plus, he and Leatrice didn't yet have the responsibilities of parenthood, so if he was ever going to make the jump, the time was now.

"She was like, Yeah, you go and do it. This is what you've always wanted. So while it's just the two of us, go for it," Mel said.



A few weeks later, they were moving to Atlanta – Melvin for his music career, Leatrice for a marketing career in the cellular phone industry.

A couple of years later, the children started coming along, and the Baldwins were moving out to the Atlanta suburb of Kennesaw. That's when the home studio came into play. With two boys – Trey, now age 14, and Blake, 9 – Mel wanted to be home as much as possible. So now he avoids long studio hours by having studios deliver the music tracks to his house, where he lays the drum tracks.

This home-based work situation was a priority for Mel and his family, especially



since tours can keep him on the road for months at a time. For example, Justin Bieber's recent "Never Say Never" tour kept Mel traveling coast-to-coast June-December. He made it home just two days before Christmas, and then, by March, was on the road again for a 10-week tour of Europe, Asia and Australia.

"But when I'm home," Mel said, "my neighbors kind of laugh and say that I always fall right back into being fully at home. Like, if I got home from tour yesterday, today I would be driving in the car pool, cutting the grass and doing my honey-do list. I mean, it's just that way with me. It's just life as normal. It's not like it's any big deal to me, but people make it a big deal."

When Mel was home last winter between tours with Justin Bieber, he even turned down the opportunity to fly out to Hollywood for the premiere of "Never Say Never," in which Mel makes many appearances. He opted, instead, to see the movie with his family at the local theatre 10 minutes down the road.

"To me, it's more special being able to view it with my family than flying out to Hollywood," he said. "They're the reason I do what I do, and it's more gratifying going to see it with them. That's what it's all about: family."

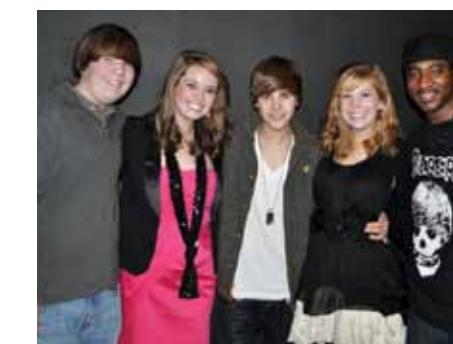
There's Mel the musician, and there's Mel the family man. Leatrice loves them both, not just to see the honey-do list completed, but especially to see her sons



Mel ('88) and Leatrice Baldwin ('88)

learn from their dad how to succeed at everything they love in life – in family, in marriage, in career. She warns her boys not to merely settle for anything in life but to aim high, to find their passion, to go for it, and to persevere through all the peaks and valleys that inevitably come when you're pursuing a dream.

"I'm proud of Mel because that's what he does," Leatrice said. "A lot of people say, Oh, you can't make a living playing drums, you better get a real job. There are so many of us who have a real job, who go to work. But I say find your passion. I tell my boys to find something they love and make it a career. Just find something you love, and it'll be easier to get up and do it every day."



Oliver Irvine, Mallory Wilson, Justin Bieber, Liz Irvine, and Melvin Baldwin, of course.



Danielle Todd ('08)



UNA ALUM ENERGIZES STUDENTS TO SUPPORT THE LIONS

By Shane Herrmann '99



Whether promoting a catfight between two rival schools, working directly with the World Famous San Diego Chicken or modeling items for a "Price is Right" promotion, **Danielle Todd '08** has had her fair share of interesting moments over the last two years. After graduating from the University of North Alabama with a degree in public relations, the graduate student is currently working in a unique role in the UNA Athletic Department.

The former volleyball standout for the Lions is finishing up her second full year as the graduate assistant for student marketing, promotions, and events. In short, it is her job to reach out to the UNA student body and inform them of the amenities that are offered at various Lion sporting events.

"It has been both fun and exciting," said Todd, who is the first person to hold such a title at UNA. "I guess the biggest challenge is trying to get the message of what we have to offer across to all the students. There are still a lot of students on campus who do not know what they could be missing."



With the recent addition of the UNA student athletic fee, athletic events now offer a wide variety of amenities for attending students who present their Mane Card. Every student who enters an athletic event receives a free concession item and is eligible to win a \$100 gift card from one of UNA's corporate partners. Other gift cards are also raffled off throughout the sport seasons, featuring cash amounts to many of the proud sponsors of the UNA athletic department.

With Todd at the helm, the UNA sport teams have also had many individual game promotions. The UNA football team held a Black Out promotion against West Alabama. The same two schools were involved in a CatFight series when the Lions and Tigers squared off on the volleyball court. The UNA men's and women's basketball teams held rivalry fan wars with Alabama-Huntsville and also allowed students to participate in several Price-is-Right themed giveaways.

Many of the events featured free pizza and drinks before each contest. On several occasions, a live band or DJ was brought in for pre-game festivities. Todd said the main focus of the events was to get more students involved with UNA athletics.

"When I played volleyball here, there was always more excitement and a better atmosphere when the students came out and really got behind us," she said. "The more students that came, the better. It really energized the players on the court or the field."

The main accomplishment for Todd was the creation of the Lion Pride Student Challenge (LPSC). During designated athletic events, Todd, along with the athletic administration would select one student who showed the most school spirit during the game. The winner would receive one of several large prizes which included flat screen televisions, iPads, NetBooks, Blue Ray players, an iTouch, and Flip Cams.

Winners were chosen based on their dress, school spirit and active participation throughout the sporting event. The UNA student fan who attended the most athletic events each season was also able to win a cash prize of up to \$2,000.

After working in the position for two years, Todd said she definitely saw an increase in student participation. "Once the word got out, more students started to come, and keep coming," Todd said. "It is definitely a step in the right direction."



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ALUMNI Leadership Summit

Leaders from the University of North Alabama Alumni Association, local chapter presidents, and members arrived for a two-day show-and-tell, and inspirational sessions of new ideas and networking. The first summit will not be the last: each spring we will endeavor to bring in the alumni who can carry the message of the University from our campus to your communities and back again.

University of North Alabama Alumni President **Brad Holmes ('02)** focused his remarks on growth, both internal and external, encouraging all alumni everywhere to become involved in starting and strengthening local clubs and establishing scholarships. Discussion followed bestowing comprehensive responsibility to clubs to plan, budget, and consider what they want to create in their own communities to support the mission of the University. Our Alumni Association cultivates lifelong friendships between UNA and its alumni and friends to become patrons for the advancement of our University.

Holmes said, "I liked seeing an open discussion about the state of each local organization and solicitation of ideas to help build a better network among our members. Isn't this a great time to be a UNA alumnus? As our University grows, so does our responsibility as alumni. Your investment in UNA is now more important than ever as we work to provide scholarships for our students. I encourage you to make an investment in a student's future. Every dollar counts and your meaningful gift provides a quality education for a deserving student. Together, we will make history with our students!"

It was decided at the business meeting of the association that chapters would be named clubs. This moniker suggests a friendly environment of alumni and non-alumni who choose to support the University. It suggests social as well as work responsibilities. It is trendy. People like to be members of clubs.

Currently, clubs in Huntsville/Madison, Decatur, Birmingham, Athens/Limestone, Scottsboro (Mountain Lakes) and Greater Montgomery (Southeast Alabama) are all raising funds for scholarships for students from their communities. Join others and give back. Give at whatever level you feel comfortable and are able to give. No gift is too small. We need to grow the endowments to \$25,000. Once that level is reached, UNA will begin the "Lion Match" program allowing the scholarship award to be matched, thereby doubling the giving power as a club. In an effort to fully endow all scholarships as soon as possible, please mark in the memo field of your check "[Name of Club] Fund" or enter that designation if you are contributing online.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Birmingham Barons, Thursday, July 14th

Huntsville Stars, Thursday, July 21st

Montgomery Biscuits, Thursday, July 28th



Dr. Debbie Shaw ('82)

Dr. Debbie Shaw ('82) returned to her Alma Mater as the featured speaker for the Alumni Leadership Summit. Her successful career in Higher Education at Auburn University is a remarkable calling card. She is currently Vice President for Alumni Affairs and Executive Director Auburn Alumni Association.

"I love my alma mater and I see it as a way I can be of service to continue supporting its mission in any way I can. I have been extremely involved with strategic planning, assessment, and alumni relations, as well as student affairs, over 28 years. Auburn has taught me a lot.

I have always felt a great affinity to UNA, and have always said if I had not

ended up at AU, I would be at UNA (somehow). There is no doubt my experience there directed me to my career choice. Jack Martin, Dean Pauline Gravlee, Eddie Keith, and others were great mentors for me."

Dr. Joyce Moore ('55) said, "Debbie is a prime example of someone from the University of North Alabama who has risen to the top of her field and never, ever forgot her beginnings. She loves UNA. You only have to talk to her for five minutes and realize, yes, she understands the spirit of what UNA is all about. To a great extent, I feel that is why she has moved so quickly to her now position as Vice President of Alumni Affairs at

Auburn University. I appreciate the fact that she remembers she received her real training from UNA. She holds an awesome job, with many people reporting to her on a daily basis, but she does it with UNA charm and UNA know-how."

Debbie Shaw was a speaker at the Advancement Donor Dinner, telling her story and expressing her belief that giving back to your University through scholarship giving is a vital way to spread your love.



Robert Smith ('81)



Linda Vaughan ('70), Tommy Whitten ('77), John and Ann Battcher ('65)



Lisa ('00) and Ryan ('01) Clayton



Susan Adams ('80) and Jan Ingle ('85)



Ethan Lolley and Kay Davis ('73)



Brad and Maria Warren ('00)



Eve Rhea ('02)



Sara and Brad Holmes ('02)



Debbie Shaw ('82), Bill Cale, Barry Morris



Bucky Beaver ('64), Jan Ingle ('85), John Kline, and Reeda Lee ('74)



STRIPLIN and FLORENCE HALL Memorial Dedication

Submitted by Melissa Tucker Medlin,
daughter of **Joe M. and Shelia Tucker ('70)**



What do you remember most from college? My entire life I have heard my parents make mention of their "college friends," the "college crowd." I was blessed to watch these stories of friendship unfold my entire life. It started with summer and holiday get-togethers and has transcended through the years to include high school and college graduations of children, weddings, now grandchildren, and sadly the deaths of some of the "college crowd." What was it that caused such a large group of college students to develop such strong bonds that have kept them close for more than 40 years? Certainly the tradition and excellence of Florence State College a.k.a. Florence State University a.k.a. the current University of North Alabama: but upon talking with this unique and close group of UNA Alumni you find that they

were all, at one time or another, residents of Florence Hall and Striplin Hall, two former dorms/residence halls at UNA.

It is the memories and stories of the rich college experience and closeness of the residents of these dorms that helped shape my expectations of university life and the friendships I would develop. I did not develop quite the large and close group that my parents did, but the influence of this circle of friends, former residents of Florence and Striplin Halls, continues to influence my thoughts of UNA and the traditions it holds even today. As I am now on campus and witness the excellence in university life and education that brought my own parents together, it brings me joy to share with prospective students the precious stories of college sweethearts who became husband and wife and friendships

that have stood the test of time through birth and death and the many twists and turns of life – all brought together by the bond of life on campus.

I challenge each of you to honor these memories through your contribution to the memorial being placed where these two residence halls once stood. To make a contribution, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations 256-765-4201 or make donations online at <http://alumni.una.edu/striplin>. Your donation is tax deductible. Funds remaining after expenses for the marker will become a lead gift in the Striplin/Florence Hall Scholarship fund.

The memorial will be unveiled at a lunch reunion event during 2011 Homecoming on September 24.



A TRIBUTE to GEORGE LINDSEY

By Terry Pace ('85, '04)
Adjunct Instructor of English



Time after time, **George Lindsey** ('52) has demonstrated his deep and passionate allegiance to the University of North Alabama.

"I spent some of the best times of my life at this school," said Lindsey, a Jasper native who became a household name playing lovable garage mechanic Goober Pyle on the classic '60s sitcom *The Andy Griffith Show* and its spinoff series, *Mayberry, R.F.D.*

"The friendships I made and the experiences I had while I was in college had a tremendous impact on my life," Lindsey explained. "They made me who I am today."

To show its appreciation, the university recently honored its best-known graduate with a special tribute presented by the George Lindsey UNA Film Festival, founded by Lindsey and his alma mater in 1998. "A Salute to George Lindsey" included the announcement of permanent testaments to Lindsey's influence as a beloved actor, comedian and humanitarian.



The university is currently raising funds to endow the George Lindsey Film and Digital Media Scholarship. This fall, the college football standout will be inducted into the UNA Sports Hall of Fame.

"It is you and the festival and the whole combination of events that have transpired over the last fifteen years that have changed our curriculum," UNA President William Cale told Lindsey during the April 30 festivities at the UNA Performance Center. "The programming that we offer and the dream that we have for the future in film all result from our relationship with you."

In a special video greeting, former child actor and Oscar-winning director Ron Howard (*Apollo 13*, *A Beautiful Mind*) fondly recalled shooting free-throws with Lindsey on *The Andy Griffith Show* set, where he looked up to his co-star as both a professional mentor and a personal role model.

"As a young guy, I had so much respect for you," Howard said. "Every time we do cross paths, that ability to make people laugh – whether it's behind the camera or in front of it – that intelligence, that humanity and that easy accessibility – well, it's all still there."

In another taped message, Lindsey's longtime friend and frequent UNA visitor Ernest Borgnine – star of *Marty*, *The Wild Bunch* and the television sitcom *McHale's Navy* – lamented that the two veteran actors had never worked together on screen aside from an episode of the country variety series *Hee-Haw*.

"You deserve the salute, kid," Borgnine said. "I'm sorry I couldn't be there to be

with you, but you can take your bows by yourself. You're a big boy now."

The evening celebrated the success of the festival (which has welcomed top-name talents ranging from Oscar winners Borgnine and Billy Bob Thornton to Lee Majors, Diane Ladd and Lucas Black) as well as Lindsey's work in films (*Ensign Pulver*, *The Aristocats*, *When I Find the Ocean*) and his guest roles on *The Alfred Hitchcock Hour*, *Gunsmoke*, *The Twilight Zone*, *M*A*S*H* and *NewsRadio*.

"George has affected me in so many ways," said actor **Danny Vinson** ('77) (*Walk the Line*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*), who was a UNA freshman when he first met Lindsey in 1973. "He was nice to me – and he didn't have to be. I thought to myself, 'There's a guy that everybody in the world knows, and he's taking time to be nice to me.' That's a lesson I learned from him that I'll never forget."

The tribute was hosted by Nashville singing duo Moore & Moore (twin sisters Carrie Moore-Reed and Debbie Moore), whose 2007 music video "Find Me a Man Like Goober" saluted Lindsey's signature role. The evening's special guest – singer and comedienne Lulu Roman – sang the pop-jazz standards "At Last" and "Too Far Gone" in honor of her fellow *Hee-Haw* performer.

"You are such a worthy soul to be honored, for all the things that you've done," Roman told her friend of 39 years. "I know everybody always says, 'Goober, Goober, Goober,' but to me you're George. You're sweet George – always will be."

Kenneth Junkin as Otis Campbell, comedienne and singer Lulu Roman and actor Danny Vinson ('77) were among the special guests present April 30 to honor George Lindsey.



NANCY SANFORD '78

STATE APPOINTMENT for UNA GRAD

Nancy Sanford '78 may have graduated from the University of North Alabama, but she has maintained a close relationship with her alma mater ever since, and has been an active member of the community she calls home.

Nancy has served as executive director of the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library (FLPL) since 2004, which serves a county population of 88,000 and the entire northwest Alabama Shoals Region. She is a graduate of the University of North Alabama in dramatic arts and speech. Prior to joining the library, Nancy held administrative, public relations and teaching positions at Sheffield City Schools and Helen Keller Hospital. She has served in numerous Shoals-area organizations, including serving as president of the Sheffield Rotary Club, Tennessee Valley Art Association, and Colbert County Red Cross. She works closely with the Music Preservation Society.

Nancy received an appointment to the Board of Directors of the Alabama Humanities Foundation in 2010, serving on the Executive Committee. The AHF offers the people of Alabama opportunities to explore the humanities through funded public programs such as seminars, workshops, lectures, exhibitions, documentary videos, and films.

As the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the AHF strives to create and foster opportunities, through grants and AHF-conducted programs, for scholars and the public to interact and explore human values and meanings through the humanities. Founded in 1974 as a vehicle for awarding grants to grassroots organizations in Alabama, the AHF now also conducts its own programs benefiting teachers, schoolchildren, families, and the general public.

Sanford said, "Serving on the AHF Board of Directors has given me the opportunity to learn much more about some of the scholarly research and programs that are going on throughout the state of Alabama. I hope that as a

representative from northwest Alabama I can encourage participation from scholars from our part of the state. I also believe it is my job to be an ambassador from UNA and the Shoals area to let others know about the rich cultural heritage of our area and to look for ways we can bring the Humanities Foundation and the community together.

"Since coming to the FLPL I have enjoyed working with a variety of UNA departments as a partner for programming and services. We have partnered with the Art Department, Kilby School, the UNA Writing Center, and faculty in the Geography department for our extremely popular series the Get Out of Town programs. We are also happy to host faculty members for public programming throughout the year. We have also partnered with the Lindsey Film Festival in past years as a viewing

site. We truly have a wonderful town and gown relationship with the University. Earlier this year the library hosted UNA alum **Robert Steele ('78)** with his book "Steele Here" for an author program."

Nancy Meeks Sanford is a second generation graduate of UNA. Her dad, the late Ronald Meeks, was a 1958 graduate of Florence State Teachers College. He played football and was a UNA Army ROTC commissioned officer. He came back to UNA in the '70s and was a Professor of Military Science in the ROTC Department.

In addition to participating in seven university theatrical productions, including two Summer Theater experiences, Nancy was a Golden Girl, a member and former President of the Student Activities Board, a member of Phi Mu Fraternity, and a SOAR counselor. She said, "I loved my college years at

UNA so much so that in 1978 when getting ready to graduate I approached UNA president Dr. Robert Guillot with the idea that I would like work for UNA to recruit students. Dr. Guillot expressed concern about a young woman being out on the highways of Alabama alone. I explained that I had taken two years of ROTC and could read a map! He hired me and I spent the next four years traveling around the state recruiting students during the school year and working with SOAR in the summer. I also still meet people that tell me, 'You were my SOAR counselor.' I have lifelong friends from my days at UNA that are spread out from Los Angeles to Florida and I wouldn't trade my UNA experience for anything!"

Nancy is married to **Ian Sanford ('76)** and has two children.

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UNA FISHING CLUB

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The philosophy that the youth of today are our future holds true for fishing too. Bass fishing has become so popular that many colleges and high schools have jumped on the bass boat to form clubs and compete on the regional and national level. The University of North Alabama is one of the premiere fishing clubs. We are proud to announce that Florence/Lauderdale Tourism is now one of their major sponsors.

Florence/Lauderdale Tourism Director **Debbie Wilson ('83)** said, "We are supportive of all UNA athletic programs and this was a great fit for the club and a way to promote our area and lakes. They are the perfect addition to our marketing team. Our website will be featured on the club members' shirts, boats and trucks."

Club member **Shawn Dalrymple ('02)** said, "The UNA Fishing Club is excited to be partner with Florence/Lauderdale tourism. Through our partnership, national attention will be brought to the wonderful fishery we have here on the Tennessee River in Pickwick, Wilson, and Wheeler Lakes. We look forward to the opportunity to work even closer with our newest partner."



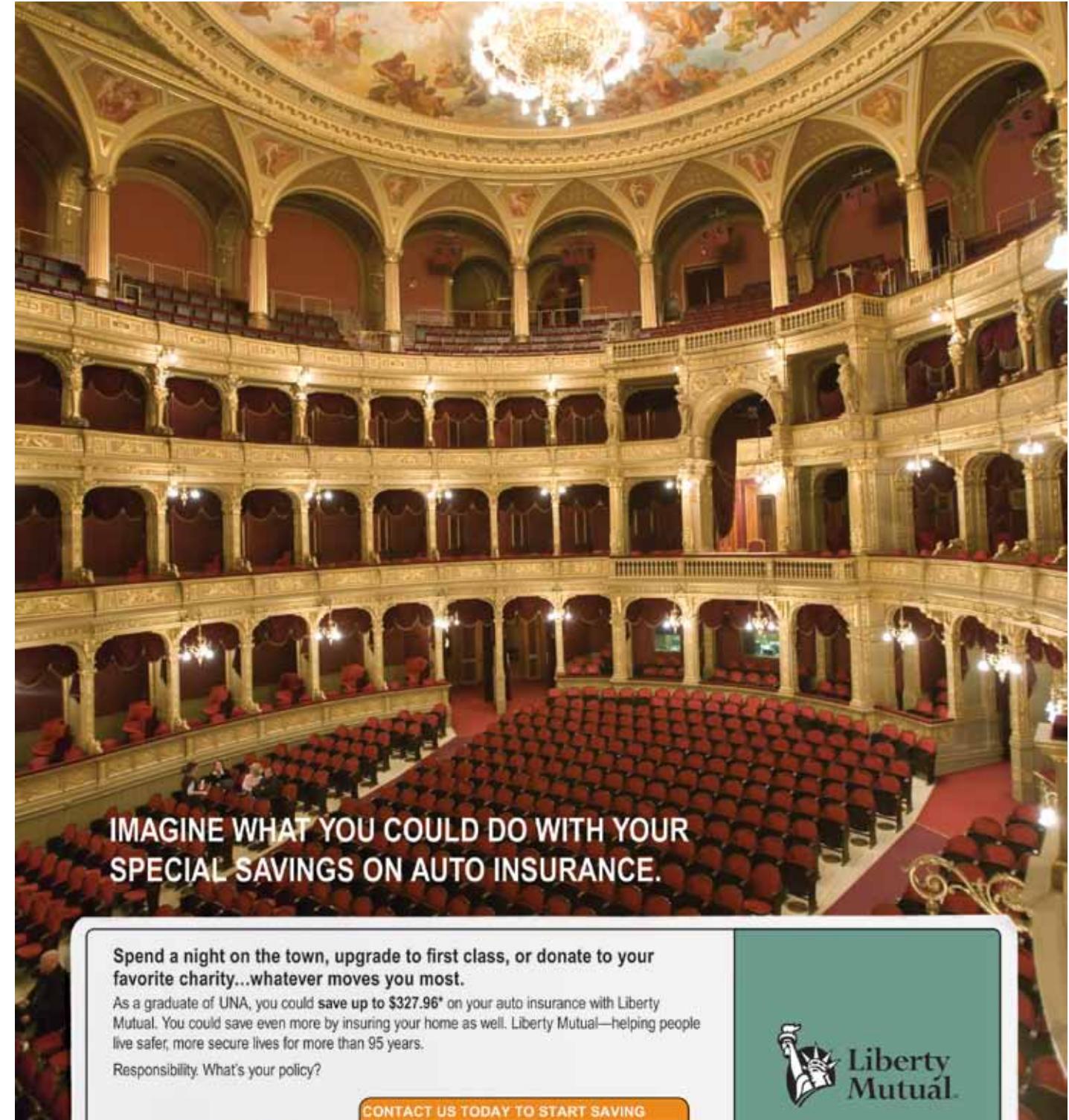
UNA FISHING CLUB

HELPS WITH WORLEY VIDEO

Country music star and UNA alumnus **Darryl Worley ('87)** returned to the Shoals area in early April to record a video, "Fishin' Hole," the theme song for "The Andy Griffith Show," for Outdoor Music®. The UNA Bass Fishing Club was recruited to lend a hand in the project. The club lined up several boats for the video shoot and helped select a shooting location on Second Creek near Florence.



"They [the UNA Bass Fishing Club] obviously know the lake out here really well, and they brought some boats out to help the camera guys, so they've been a big help to us," Worley said. "It was cool for me to find out how well these guys have been doing out on the tour. ... I'm an alumnus, and I'm pretty proud of UNA anyway, so this has been a lot of fun. This is kind of like getting back home for me."



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University of NORTH ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC & THEATRE



Plays for the 2010-11 UNA theatre season included (from top-left) Charles Busch's "Psycho Beach Party," Athol Fugard's "Master Harold" ... and the Boys," John Patrick Shanley's "Doubt", Neil LaBute's "The Shape of Things" and the musical dinner theatre "Dinner With Cole."



Visit www.una.edu/music-theatre this fall for information on 2011-12 productions.



CLASS NOTES

1960s

Bob Martin ('79) is a dentist and lives in Ft. Deposit, Ala.

1980s

Bobby Tate ('69) was inducted into the Lauderdale County Sports Hall of Fame. He played at Marion Military Institute for two years and was an All-Dixie Conference pitcher. He transferred to UNA and was starting guard on the basketball team his senior year. He led the Lions baseball team with a 6-2 record and pitched two no-hitters. He was the head coach of the Coffee girls' basketball team for four seasons.

1970s

Murray Millwee ('74) retired as district manager of probation for Northwest Alabama after 36 years with the Alabama Department of Probation and Parole.

Ronnie Sewell ('75) is the President of Alabama Christian Academy in Montgomery. He began his career in education in 1975 and served in the public schools before entering Christian education in 1981. Sewell became ACA's second President in June 2002. He previously served at the academy for nine years (1981-1990) as a teacher, coach, and administrator. Prior to returning to ACA, Mr. Sewell served as Superintendent for Central Arkansas Christian Schools and President of Jackson Christian School (Tennessee). He and his wife Egena, have four daughters and three grandchildren.

2000s

Erin Robinson Elkins ('02) has been named the Teacher of the Year for the secondary division at Elkmont High School. She has taught Spanish and history at Elkmont since 2006.

Michael Stuart Tubb ('02) was named by the Regions' area president as the commercial relationship manager for Jackson, Marshall, DeKalb, and Madison Counties in Alabama. Tubb brings five years of experience to his new role. He has spent a majority of that time as a Credit Underwriter in the Huntsville market.

Lisa Travillian ('04) was named the Marketing Manager of Ornamentals Manufacturing in Cullman, Ala. She has a diverse employment history, including production coordination with advertising agencies and six years in leadership with the United States Coast Guard.

Judith Spencer ('95) has been promoted to Mississippi State University's director of Human Resources, after being the associate director since 2004.

Pete Nelson ('98) a Florence native who began as Leo, UNA's mascot, has created a career of being the man behind the mask of the Tennessee Titans mascot. As T-Rac, he's one of four mascots nominated for the "Most Awesome Mascot" award as part of the Cartoon Network's "Hall of Game" awards. T-Rac is the only one of the mascots to represent the NFL.

Dr. Alvin Taylor ('05) was named the Meridian Public School District superintendent in Mississippi. Previously Dr. Taylor was the West Point High School Principal.

Katye Coats ('08) CPA, has been promoted to Senior Staff Accountant at Hartmann, Blackmon & Kilgore P.C., in Fairhope, Ala. It is one of the Gulf Coast's leading CPA and business consulting firms and is ranked by *Business Alabama* as one of the top-tier accounting firms in the state.

Non-Graduating Alum

Josh Willingham was named Shoals Citizen of the Year. The Josh Willingham Foundation has been established to provide life-changing experiences to underserved Shoals' children. The Willinghams remain active with sponsorships and functions at UNA and Mars Hill.

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Pete Nelson ('98) as Tennessee Titans mascot T-Rac

Photo courtesy of Pete Nelson



UNA GRAND OPENINGS



The spring semester kicked off with four grand openings for new restaurants and entertainment across campus. ABOVE: WOW Café & Wingery opened in January with a wing-eating competition, featuring its insanely hot Buffalo 13 sauce. WOW is located in the Student Recreation Center. TOP-RIGHT: The new Game Room in the Guillot University Center opened in February with a presidential face-off at the pool tables. Dr. William G. Cale, Jr., UNA president, won over Cory Hamilton, SGA president. BOTTOM: Rice Box and Sub Connection were added to the GUC food court in January.



Carol Lyles ('70), Josh McFall ('07), Sarah and Bobby Irons ('65) and Ron Wright ('70)



Keith Jones, Chris Horn and Josh Woods



Mac Buttram ('69)



HIGHER ED DAY 2011



Greg Burdine ('82) with UNA Students



Clinton Carter ('00)

UNA SPORTSMAN'S CLUB
CELEBRITY GOLF CLASSIC

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

Rescheduled due to April 27 tornadoes
Register online at www.una.edu/celebritygolfclassic



IN MEMORY

YEARS UNIDENTIFIED

Elane Cash was an award-winning photographer whose career included working for the Ogden Standard-Examiner and the Associated Press. She attended UNA, and later graduated from Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, with a degree in art history. At the time of her death, Elane was an early childhood assistant at Mills Elementary School in Austin.

Beverly Beaver (Barton) took her "wonderful imagination" and built it into a career as a best-selling novelist. She released her first book in 1990 under the Silhouette Desire label. Her mainstream romantic suspense novel, "After Dark," was released in December 2000. She is a two-time recipient of the Romance Writers of America's Maggie Award, was honored twice with RWA's National Reader's Choice Award, and became a recipient of the Romantic Times Career Achievement Award. In 2010, the first book in her latest series, "Dead by Midnight," spent multiple weeks on the New York Times and USA Today best-seller lists. Some of her other books have appeared on the New York Times list. Beverly was from Tuscumbia, Ala.

Lillian Deibert was a fixture at countless Lions sporting events. She was a faithful University of North Alabama sports fan until her health no longer allowed her to attend athletic events. She and her husband donated their 70-acre horse farm to become a park for the city of Florence, Ala.

Bonelle Elkins attended Florence State Teachers College and Jefferson Hillman Hospital School of Nursing,

now UAB. She was a licensed registered nurse for 31 years.

Shawn Lee was a 1988 sixth-round pick of Tampa Bay from the University of North Alabama. Lee spent two seasons with the Buccaneers then two with Miami before arriving in San Diego. While at UNA he played the trombone and performed in the orchestra. He was a key member of the defense on San Diego's 1994 Super Bowl team.

Gene McBee was a retired principal of Summertown High School in Tennessee. McBee played baseball and basketball at UNA and went on to play minor league baseball. He coached at Sprayberry High School, Marietta, Ga.; Stephens County High, Toccoa, Ga.; and at Columbia State. While coaching at Columbia State, he was influential in taking his teams to many national tournaments. Afterward, he became the vice principal and basketball coach at Summertown High School.

Michael Allen McDougal ('74) graduated in Bradshaw High School's first graduating class and attended the University of North Alabama. He was the director/founder of the Tuscaloosa Wheelchair Warriors 1978-1992. He retired from DCH Regional Medical Center in Tuscaloosa, Ala., where he worked in public relations. Mr. McDougal is survived by his wife, **Carol Atkins McDougal ('74)**.

Ira Lyman Mitchell attended the University of North Alabama and graduated from Auburn in 1947. He attended the University of Tennessee at Memphis School of Dentistry. Several years ago, Mitchell became interested in forming a local orchestra that would provide concerts

with music from the "Big Band Era." Performances of The Big Band were popular events throughout northwest Alabama. Concerts were given to raise funds for scholarships and other needs of the University of North Alabama Marching Band as well as other area nonprofit organizations.

Adrian H. Triplett attended UNA for three years. In 1989, she obtained an Associate Applied Science Degree in Wilmington, N.C., from Cape Fear Community College, in Mechanical Drafting and Design Technology. Triplett worked at the Kennedy Space Center from 1963 to 1967, with a break in 1965 working as a reporter for the Cocoa Tribune in Cocoa, Fla. She worked various drafting jobs in Wilmington, N.C., from 1969 to July 1995.

FACULTY / STAFF

Timothy Carter was appointed at the University of North Alabama as an associate professor of criminal justice in 2007. Before his academic career he worked in corrections, probation, and parole for the United States in South Carolina and held several military police positions with the U.S. Army. Carter received much recognition for his professional services, recently serving on the board of the Cramer Children's Center in Florence, Ala.

Doris Kelso was a University of North Alabama English Professor Emerita. She joined the faculty of the Florence State Teachers College in 1947, teaching English and journalism. In 1948, she was named director of the news bureau, adviser of the Flor-Ala and the Diorama, which she

founded. In 1973 Kelso was named director of publications and in 1983 she was named director of information services and publications until her retirement in 1984. She remained active in retirement and volunteered at Safeplace for many years.

Edith E. Watts retired from the University of North Alabama in 1981. She was an assistant professor in early childhood education. She moved to Birmingham and was the director of the preschool program at Lakeside Baptist and also worked at Brookwood Hospital.

1930s

Martha C. Gaskins ('32) received her Bachelor's Degree in Education from Florence State Teachers College and her Master's in Education from University of Alabama at Birmingham. She established scholarships at Samford University Beeson's School of Education and Professional Studies, University of North Alabama, and Georgia Tech.

She enjoyed many career accomplishments and awards as an educator for 27 years. After she retired she served nine years as a member of Birmingham, Ala., Board of Education. The Birmingham City School System named a school (Martha Gaskins Middle School) in her honor. Mrs. Gaskins was an Honorary Life Member of the Northeast Branch Board of YMCA. She was inducted into Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame and also received the Golden Eagle Medal of Honor.

Grace Lacy ('32) received a teaching diploma from Florence State Teachers

College and a Bachelor of Science from Oglethorpe College in Atlanta in 1968. She was a gifted elementary school teacher who taught for over 50 years.

1940s

Lewis Wendell Page ('41) attended Florence State Teachers College where he received his degree. He received a Master's degree from Peabody College in Nashville, Tenn., and completed more post-graduate studies at Alabama A&M University in Huntsville.

He began serving as a teacher in 1937 while still pursuing his degree. He taught at Jackson County High School, in Scottsboro City Schools, and served as principal at Paint Rock Valley High School, Central Elementary School, Scottsboro Junior High, and Scottsboro Elementary School, touching thousands of lives along the journey. He was also a musician and an accomplished singer and performed with the Glee Club at Florence State. Page wrote several books and received many honors throughout his

lifetime. The Page Elementary School was officially dedicated in his honor on June 11, 2008.

Barney Keith ('45) graduated from Freed-Hardeman College, Florence State Teachers College, and the University of Kentucky. He preached for over 70 years in Alabama, including Florence, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Florida. He and his wife Lillian lived in the Birmingham area when he died.

James Flanagan ('49) enlisted

in the U.S. Army in 1941 and later applied for acceptance to the officer candidate program with the U.S. Army Air Corps. His first journey to the South was at the Courtland Air Field. He served until 1946 as a flight engineer aboard B-17 and B-24 bombers. After World War II, he returned to the Shoals area and graduated from Florence State College. He received a master's degree from Vanderbilt University.

1950s

Harold E. Layne ('50) obtained his bachelor's degree from Florence State Teachers College, his master's degree from the University of Alabama, and was retired with 30 years of service as a Jefferson County Educator. He served his country proudly with the Army Air Forces until he became disabled during WWII.

1960s

Sherry McCullough ('73) was a graduate of Florence State University and received two degrees from State Tech in Memphis. While a student at Florence State she was a member of the Chamber Choir. McCullough retired from the U.S. Postal Service and was currently working for Marx and Bensdorf Realty and Glen Rutherford Commercial Realty.

Terrance M. Wray ('77) enjoyed over twenty years of working in the automotive industry. In 2000, he joined

his wife in Wray Enterprises, Inc., where they built a multi-sector enterprise. Wray was a community leader who was active in the business, civic, and social arenas. Wray was married to his college sweetheart, **Rita Wray ('78)** for 34 years.

1970s

Adrian Dilworth ('97) attended the University of North Alabama and received a degree in Industrial Hygiene. He was employed as a quality control technician.

Alumni Information Update

Name (include maiden name if applicable) _____

Graduation Year(s) and Major(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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UPDATE YOUR RECORDS



ALUMNI CLUB

DECATUR AND MORGAN COUNTY



Barbara and Jackie Burney ('59)



Scott Chappell ('88) and Melody Stewart ('06)



Robin ('01) and Mark Brewer



Francis Vest Rowe ('69) and Lindsey Case ('77)



Sara Page ('01), Cory Wilbanks ('99) and Jim Page ('01)



FULFILLING DREAMS

As **Judy Whalen Evans ('72)** completed her UNA degree, Pauline Gravlee, dean of women at the time, made a deal with her: if Judy could get accepted to law school, she'd find her a scholarship. Long story short, Judy kept her end of the deal, and Dean Gravlee kept hers. Because of Dean Gravlee, Judy fulfilled her dreams.

Now, because of Judy, Lindsay McCarley is fulfilling hers. Lindsay, a senior biology major, is recipient of the Pauline E. Gravlee Leadership Scholarship, which Judy established in Dean Gravlee's honor.

"That was so easy for me to do," Judy said, "because of the difference that Dean Gravlee made in my life."

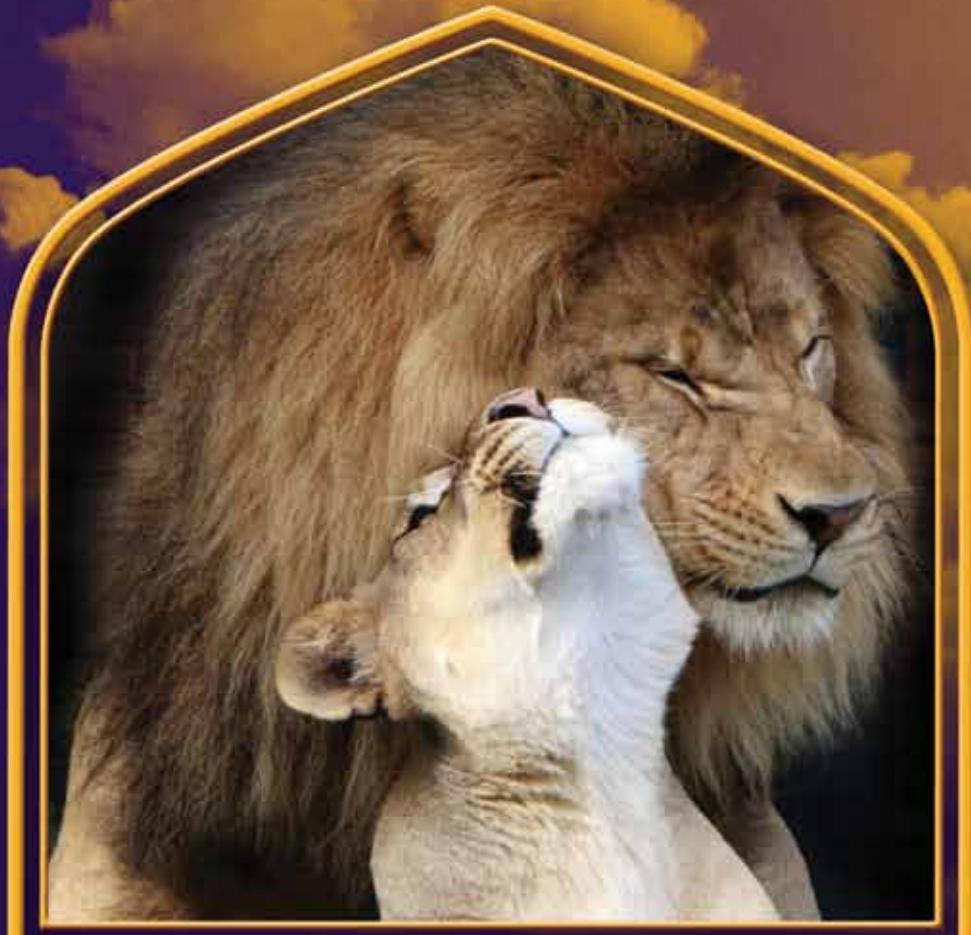


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